

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 VIENTI 06416 181715Z

72

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IGA-02 AID-20 DPW-01 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19

IO-13 DRC-01 /147 W

----- 125403

R 181055Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5886

INFO CMDR USSAG NKP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 6416

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, MOPS, LA

SUBJECT: GAO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON WAR-RELATED
CASUALTIES IN LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 4671

1. ON SEPTEMBER 18, EMBASSY RECEIVED FROM MR. RONALD L. KING, SUPERVISORY GAO AUDITOR, MEMORANDUM DATED SAME DAY REQUESTING INFORMATION ON SUBJECT, PARTICULARLY INFORMATION ON ACCIDENTAL BOMBINGS DURING FY-72/73/74. MEMO ENCLOSED CHAPTER SEVEN OF PREVIOUS GAO REPORT ON SUBJECT DATED MARCH 13, 1972. REPORT NUMBER IS B-133001. KING STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN REQUESTED BY KENNEDY SUBCOMMITTEE TO UP-DATE CHAPTER SEVEN. EMBASSY OFFICER INFORMED KING THAT, AS WAS CASE OF PREVIOUS SUCH REQUEST, (REFTEL) EMBASSY FULLY PREPARED TO COOPERATE IN EVERY WAY. HOWEVER, EMBASSY WOULD FIRST HAVE TO REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED FROM WASHINGTON, WHICH WE PRESUMED WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. KING WAS INFORMED THAT AIR ATTACHE OFFICE KEPT RECORDS ON SUCH CASES, AS DID USSAG/NKP.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VIENTI 06416 181715Z

2. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORIZATION TO FURNISH INFORMATION DESIRED BY GAO AS OUTLINED IN FOLLOWING GAO

MEMO.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF MEMO:

QUOTE

TO: MR. RICHARD HOWLAND, POLITICAL SECTION,
U.S. EMBASSY, VIENTIANE, LAOS

FROM: RONALD L. KING, SITE SUPERVISOR,
: SUPERVOSORY GAO AUDITOR, BANGKOK OFFICE

SUBJ: REVIEW OF REFUGEES, WAS CASUALTY, CIVILIAN HEALTH,
AND SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS IN LAOS (CODE 48664)

AS PART OF THE SUBJECT ASSIGNMENT, WE HAVE BEEN
REQUESTED TO UP-DATE THE DATA CONTAINED IN OUR PRIOR
REPORTS TO THE CHAIRMAN, SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE TO INVESTI-
GATE PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH REFUGEES AND ESCAPEES. IN
OUR REPORT, ENTITLED "FOLLOW-UP REVIEW OF CIVILIAN
HEALTH AND WAR-RELATED CASUALTY PROGRAM IN LAOS."
B-133001, DATED MARCH 13, 1972, WE REPORTED ON ACCIDENTAL
BOMBINGS IN LAOS.

ATTACHED IS A COPY OF THE ACCIDENTAL BOMBING
CHAPTER FROM THE ABOVE REPORT. IT IS REQUESTED THAT
WE BE PROVIDED WITH THE FOLLOWING DATA:

A. NUMBER OF INCIDENTS AND THE NUMBER OF
PERSONS KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THESE
INCIDENTS DURING FISCAL YEARS 1972, 1973,
AND TO DATE IN 1974, IF ANY, BY ACCIDENTAL
BOMBINGS.

B. SAME INFORMATION ON INCIDENTS RESULTING FROM
ACCIDENTAL DETONATION OF UNEXPLODED BOMBS.

C. PROCEDURES FOR INVESTIGATION AND SETTLE-
MENT OF CLAIMS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 VIENTI 06416 181715Z

D. CRITERIA FOR SETTLING THE AMOUNT TO BE
PAID TO CLAIMANTS.

E. AMOUNTS OF SETTLEMENTS MADE DURING FISCAL
YEARS 1972, 1973, AND TO DATE IN 1974.

F. UPDATE ON ALLOCATIONS MADE BY THE SECRETARY
OF DEFENSE TO THE CONTINGENCY FUND FOR
ACCIDENTAL BOMBINGS.

DURING OUR OPENING CONFERENCE WITH MR. DEAN,
HE ADVISED US THAT OPERATIONS WERE UNDERWAY TO LOCATE
AND DISARM OR DESTROY LIVE, UNEXPLODED MUNITIONS DROPPED
BY U.S. AIRCRAFT OVER LAOS. BECAUSE OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S
APPARENT CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE FUTURE REFUGEE CASUALTIES
RESULTING FROM ACCIDENTAL DETONATION OF UNEXPLODED MUNI-
TIONS, IT IS REQUESTED THAT WE BE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION
ON U.S. ACTIVITIES TO CLEAN UP THE AREA TO PRECLUDE FUTURE
INCIDENTS WHICH COULD RESULT IN ADDITIONAL CLAIMS AGAINST
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. UNQUOTE - END OF TEXT OF MEMO
WHITEHOUSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENTI06416
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730926/aaaaassy.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENTIANE 4671
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Nov-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <21-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GAO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON WAR-RELATED CASUALTIES IN LAOS
TAGS: MILI, MOPS, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005